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GCSE

**PANJABI**

8683/RF: Reading Foundation  
Report on the Examination

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## General comments

The overall demand of the paper was slightly higher compared with the Foundation Tier paper of 2019. This has been endorsed by the mean mark which has gone down by 4.2. Although any words from outside the vocabulary list were replaced with simple words, the students still found the paper harder due to the impact of Covid 19. The students found questions 1-4, 7, 9 and 10 accessible; however they found questions 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13 and 14 quite challenging.

## Section A

### Question 01

Around 80% students scored well on this question; it was aimed at lower ability students.

### Question 02

On average 52% students achieved one mark for each part of this question though only 31% students were successful with question 02.3. It appeared that they did not know what 'ਨਾਟਕ' was in English. Despite using the most common word 'ਡਰ ਵਾਲੀਆਂ ਫਿਲਮਾਂ' for scary films in Panjabi, around 54% students could not score that particular mark.

### Question 03

Most students scored well on this question as it was set on 'healthy living' and they found it quite accessible.

### Question 04

Around 57% of students answered question 04.1 well and scored both marks; however, only around 42% of students gained both marks for question 04.2. The first disadvantage 'losing contact with family members' was quite accessible, however the Punjabi word 'ਸੁਸਤ' for 'lazy' in English was quite challenging for many students.

### Question 05

Most students did not perform well on this question – they found it challenging. Around 35% of students scored both marks on question 05.1, however only around 12% of the students did well on question 05.2. Many students managed to find the advantage 'can enjoy decent food', however 'some real/pure foods' needed for the disadvantage created a problem for many students.

### Question 06

This question was based on a literary text and aimed at higher ability students. On average around 57% of students scored the mark on questions 06.1-06.5. However only

around 30% of students could score a mark on question 06.6 as they needed to infer information from the text. If the ceiling fans could not stop the Bhangra teams' sweating it could ruin their makeup. The students' worst performance was seen in question 06.7 as only around 25% students could work out from the Panjabi text that the Chief Minister did not have time to see Bhangra team's performance hence the statement in question 06.7 'the Bhangra team performed in front of the Chief Minister' was 'false'.

### **Question 07**

Around 71% of students found this question quite accessible as it was based on an interesting topic of 'festivals'.

### **Question 08**

Around 50% of students scored well on this question which was based on a survey. The students performed less well on questions 08.3 and 08.4 as their average score on these two questions was around 34%. It appears that the students' lack of knowledge about frequency words and how to relate the Panjabi questions in the survey to the English questions caused a problem for half of the students to work out any answers.

## **Section B**

### **Question 09**

A good number of students found this question accessible as it was a low demand question. However, some students found it hard to relate weekend jobs with a description of jobs in Panjabi text.

### **Question 10**

About half of the students scored at least 2 marks on this question on a 'school'. The other half of the students could not relate the options with the email text well, as the options were in Panjabi in Section B. Although some difficult vocabulary was replaced with simpler words, due to the effect of Covid 19, many students still did not perform well on this question.

### **Question 11**

Simple text was used in this question due to the low demand of the question. All of the targeted words were from the vocabulary list for the foundation tier and difficult words from outside the vocabulary list were replaced with a simple word due to Covid 19. Although this question was set on an accessible topic of 'My house', the mean mark scored by the students was still quite low, with only around 34% of students scoring at least two marks out of the four available. Teachers are advised to make students practise more 'filling in the blanks questions' in class.

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## Question 12

This question was based on a famous folk song. Only around one-third of the students answered this question well, perhaps because it was written in a poetry format. A good number of students (57%) performed well on question 12.1 as they could infer well from the text of the folk song that the girl was going to her in-laws' house after marriage, although there was no direct answer in the text of the song. The majority of students (73%) in question 12.2 had difficulty in relating the text in option A with the text in the folk song. Many students (77%) could not work out if the girl's brother's daughters are her father's 'ਪੋਤਰੀਆਂ' granddaughters. A good number of students (66%) did not perform well on question 12.4 as they did not know what 'embroidery' in Panjabi was.

## Question 13

The students' worst performance of all was seen in question 13. Students found the reading material quite challenging. Some of the students who attempted this question did not write their answer next to the correct present problem given in the table. Answers in English were rejected even if they were correct because of the requirement to write answers in Panjabi in Section B.

## Section C

### Question 14

The average mark for the translation was 2.8 out of 9. Only an exceedingly small number (1%) of students achieved the full 9 marks; about one-third of the students gained at least five marks. The most common mistakes seen in translations included:

- many students did not fully translate each section of the sentence, hence failed to gain a mark;
- the frequency word 'ਅਮ ਤੌਰ ਤੇ' was not translated correctly by most students;
- some students put down the verb form in the present tense when translating the Panjabi phrase '...ਵਰਗਾ ਲਗਦਾ ਸੀ।' – in English they wrote 'look like' instead of 'looked like'.

Students and teachers are reminded that two tenses, present and past tense, are tested in the Foundation Tier hence only the correct verb forms are awarded marks.

### **Mark Ranges and Award of Grades**

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results Statistics](#) page of the AQA Website.